

ABSTRACT

A printshop contains resources that are utilized to complete print jobs. The
5 resources are partitioned into autonomous cells. Each autonomous cell is capable of
completing at least one class of print job. Print jobs are assigned to the autonomous
cells for completion. An autonomous cell may subdivide a print job into smaller sized
lots and process the smaller size lots in parallel. This approach enhances the efficiency
of the shop, decreases the work in progress, labor and inventory costs associated with
10 running the print jobs and increases the utilization of the printing equipment in the
printshop.